

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a method for enhancing resistance to the onset of skin damage caused by irradiation of the skin with ultraviolet light by inhibiting ultraviolet irradiation-induced apoptosis of epidermal cells as a result of increasing expression of SCCA-1 and/or SCCA-2 in epidermal cells. Moreover, the present invention provides a skin testing method for evaluating resistance of the skin to skin damage caused by ultraviolet irradiation by measuring the expression of SCCA-1 and/or SCCA-2 in epidermal cells, and judging UV resistance of the epidermis to be weak in the case expression is decreased as compared with expression in epidermal cells. Moreover, the present invention provides a method for screening drugs which enhance resistance of the skin to skin damage by ultraviolet irradiation by selecting a drug that increases expression of SCCA-1 and/or SCCA-2 as a UV resistance enhancer.